



The EPISCOPAL CHURCH of the EPIPHANY



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD
The First Sunday after the Epiphany
January 12, 2025 ✠ 10:00 AM

Thank you for joining us online today.

All in-person events at Epiphany are canceled today.

Celebrant Blessed be the one holy and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise—Glory to God

Spoken by all

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Together, let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 29—*Spoken by all*

- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, *
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; *
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; *
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; *
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; *
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.
- 9 And in the temple of the LORD *
all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; *
the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.
- 11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; *
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 8:14-17

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Amy Dills-Wright

A period of silence is kept



Renewal of Baptism Vows

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

The Prayers of the People for Epiphany

As we celebrate the manifestation of God's love to all nations, with confidence let us bring our petitions to God's altar, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

For God's people throughout the world, especially for those in positions of leadership and authority, that they might spread the good news of God's indiscriminate love, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For each other, the people of God gathered in this place, that we might always proclaim with our lives the praise of the Lord and so be channels of the call to God's promise and plan, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For our brothers and sisters and siblings, that together we might see in the star of Bethlehem not a symbol of division but a call to reconciliation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all victims of prejudice and discrimination, that the light of Christ might shine as a beacon in the world's darkness; and for gifts of healing and unity, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For our siblings in need; for the poor, the homeless, the hungry, and the abandoned; for the sick and the dying, that they might find hope and courage in the open arms of the Savior.

For members who are bidding our prayers:

Louise • Lindsey • Linda • Mary Katharine • Judy • John • Pam • Jerry • Barbara • Esther • Veta • Chris & Ron • Chris • Brandon • Anne • Eric • Francis • Brett • Laura, John, & Sarah • Robin • Beth • Sally

And for family and friends:

Laura • Carolyn • David & Colleen • Jeff • Louise • Sherri • Gary Dave • Isabel

We pray for our Haitian siblings and the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti; we pray for racial justice and the work of the Interfaith Children's Movement as they advocate for bills that improve the lives of all Georgia's children in the 2025 Georgia legislative session; and for our fragile and beautiful Earth: the Sandhill Crane—passing over Georgia to rest in Tennessee while migrating.

I invite you to add your own intercessions.

For those named aloud here and in our hearts, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant's concluding collect

Loving God, we offer you our prayers, some in words, others written in our hearts. Read our hearts; hear our prayers; and continue to shed on us your light, Christ Jesus, who is Lord.

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Welcome

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer—*traditional language*

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen

Blessing—*Celebrant*

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

